

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU
COGARD
GOVGUAM
TREASURY

UNCLAS STATE 300788

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: DECEMBER 10 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. CHINA

THURS PEOPLE'S DAILY ACCUSED CHIANG CHING OF HAVING
SABOTAGED MAO'S MEDICAL TREATMENT, TORMENTED HIM, CAUSING
HIS ILLNESS WORSEN; NO DETAILS GIVEN (AP, NYT).

ACCORDING NCNA THURS REPORT, "GANG OF FOUR" TRIED SEIZE
POWER HONAN PROVINCE; SAID IN ORDER USURP CCP/STATE POWER,
THEY ORDERED HONAN CONFIDANT DISRUPT PARTY LEADERSHIP,
UNDERMINE PRODUCTION THROUGH CONSPIRATORIAL ACTIVITIES
(REUTER HK 12/9).

STANFORD U PARASITOLOGIST PAUL BASCH SUFFERED HEART ATTACK
WHILE IN KIANGSU PROVINCE LAST YEAR; SAYS FAST/SKILLFUL/
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WELL-ORGANIZED EMERGENCY-EFFORT BY CHINESE DOCTORS SAVED
HIS LIFE. INCIDENT GAVE US SPECIALIST UNIQUE LOOK AT PRC
CARDIOLOGY, OFFERED ANOTHER WINDOW ON MODERN CHINA NOT
ORDINARILY OPEN TO WESTERNERS. IN PRC AS MEMBER NAS DEL,

SCIENTIST SAYS OFFICIAL NATURE OF DEL MAY HAVE QUALIFIED CHINESE EFFORT IN "QUANTITATIVE AND POLITICAL SENSE" (AP, LAT 12/9).

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI COMMERCIAL ATTACHE GRANT SAYS OFFICIAL US-ROC TRADE WILL REACH RECORD 4.5 BILLION DOLS THIS YEAR, WILL TOTAL MORE THAN 5 BILLION DOLS IN 1977; DECLARES US WILL SUFFER 1.3 BILLION DOL TRADE DEFICIT WITH ROC THIS YEAR. ATTRIBUTES WIDENING TRADE GAP TO RAPID RISE TAIWAN EXPORTS TO US, WHILE GROWTH US EXPORTS TO TAIWAN HAD NOT BEEN ABLE KEEP PACE (REUTER TAIPEI).

PHINQ REPORTS CHINESE ACROBATS OF TAIWAN WILL PERFORM IN WILMINGTON GRAND OPERA HOUSE MONDAY. ARTICLE ACCOMPANIED BY PHOTO OF TROUPE.

2. AUSTRALIA/NZ

CSM'S CARTHEW (WELLINGTON) REPORTS NZ/MULTINATIONAL OIL FIRMS SPARRING OVER OFFSHORE RIGHTS. FINDS GNZ'S HANDLING OF ON-AGAIN-OFF-AGAIN 3-DOL-PER-BARREL GOVT TAX APPEARS HAVE LEFT COMPANIES UNSURE OF THEIR FUTURE THERE.

FED/LOCAL POLICE PLACED ON SPECIAL ALERT IN SYDNEY/MELBOURNE FOLLOWING THREATS BY MYSTERIOUS GROUP TO EXPLODE NUKE DEVICE FRIDAY UNLESS GOA DOES NOT BAN URANIUM MINING/EXPORT BY THEN (REUTER CANBERRA).

REYNOLDS METALS/ALCOA OF AUSTRALIA PLANNING 675-MILLION-DOL ALUMINA REFINERY IN SW AUSTRALIA, ACCORDING THURS PERTH ANNOUNCEMENT BY STATE PREMIER COURT (NYT).

AUSSIE WHEAT BOARD RAISES 76-77 CROP ESTIMATE TO 9.5 MILLION TONS, UP 1.2 MILLION FROM LAST ESTIMATE OCT 14 (JOC LONDON).

3. PHILIPPINES UNCLASSIFIED

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MIL AUTHORITIES REPORT 11 PERSONS WERE SHOT IN EXECUTION-STYLE SLAYING NEAR ZAMBOANGA CITY LAST FRIDAY; MOTIVE UNKNOWN (WP).

BESET BY WORLD MARKET'S SHARPLY DECLINING SUGAR PRICES, GOP IS NEGOTIATING NEW SALES TO PRC, US, ARAB COUNTRIES, PRES MARCOS SAID THURS. TOLD GOVT SUPPLY OFFICERS THAT IMELDA WILL UNDERTAKE SUGAR-SELLING MISSION, ARRANING MEETINGS WITH BIG US SUGAR FIRMS/ARAB STATE PROSPECTIVE BUYERS. SAID PEKING HAS ALREADY AGREED BUY, PRICE UNDER NEGOTIATION (UPI, JOC).

4. JAPAN

TOKYO POL SOURCES SAY MIKI WILL DELAY ANNOUNCING RESIGNATION UNTIL EARLY NEXT WEEK TO WORK ON LDP REFORM PROPOSAL (WP).

REUTER'S NAKAMIKADO (TOKYO) REPORTS LDP ALREADY CONSIDERING PROPOSALS CONSULT W/MODERATE OPPOSITION PARTIES OVER POLICIES/PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS IN FACE POL INSTABILITY AFTER LOSING WORKING MAJORITY.

WSJ REPORTS HAK WORRIED EFFECTS LOCKHEED SCANDAL WILL HURT US-JAPAN RELS FOR YEARS TO COME; EXPECTS TOKYO TURN MORE NATIONALISTIC.

NAGASAKI CITY GOVT SENT TELEGRAM TO AMB HODGSON THURS PROTESTING UNDERGROUND NUKE TEST NEVADA WED (AP, PHINQ).

JAPANESE EMB IN MOSCOW DELIVERS MESSAGE TO KREMLIN PROTESTING USSR'S PLANNED ROCKET TESTS IN N PACIFIC. SAYS TESTS ENDANGER JAPAN-N AMER INTL POLAR AIR FLIGHTS (REUTER TOKYO).

DEF AGENCY SELECTS MCDONNELL DOUGLAS F-15 AS NEXT GENERATION MAINSTAY FIGHTER FOR JAPANESE AF. COST NOT DISCLOSED, THO ESTIMATED AROUND 3.3 BIL DOLS (REUTER TOKYO).

HIGH-RANKING STEEL INDUSTRY EXECs TESTIFIED AT OFFICE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR TRADE NEGOTS 12/9, URGED FORD UNCLASSIFIED

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INTERCEDE IN SEEKING END EC-JAPAN STEEL TRADE AGREEMENT (UPI, NYT). BUT SEN FIN CMTE MEMBER ROTH TELEGRAPHED MAJOR STEEL FIRMS, SAID RECENT PRICE HIKES RAISE "SERIOUS QUESTION" WHETHER IMPORT PROTECTION CAN BE JUSTIFIED (LAWRENCE, JOC).

SEN PERCY SAYS HE HAS "REASON TO BELIEVE" GM/CHRYSLER HAVE BEGUN TALKS W/JAPANESE ON STEEL PURCHASES. SUCH MOVE COULD RESULT IN HIGHER STEEL IMPORTS, SUBSEQUENT LOWER DEMAND FOR DOMESTIC STEEL (BALT NA 12/9).

REPS FROM LOCAL BRANCHES JAPAN-BASED FIRMS/US BUSINESS TOLD 7TH US-JAPAN ECON RELS SYMPOSIUM WED IN LA THAT PROTECTIONIST SENTIMENTS AMONG INTL TRADERS MAY FORCE JAPAN TEMPER EXPANSIVE ECON POLICIES. LA CONSUL GENERAL ADDED LARGE DEFICIT W/EEC HAS BECOME "CRITICAL ISSUE" RESULTING IN JAPAN'S POL RATHER THAN ECON DECISION TAKE STEPS RECTIFY TRADE IMBALANCE (YOSHIHARA, LAT 12/9).

RISING UNEMPLOYMENT IN INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS/ANTIPATHY TO JAPANESE EXPORTS HAVE CAUSED MITI BEGIN DRAW UP PROGRAM DESIGNED ENCOURAGE JAPANESE FIRMS ESTABLISH MORE MFRING PLANTS IN US/OTHER HIGHLY INDUSTRIALIZED W COUN-

TRIES (CULLISON, JOC).

TREASURY DEPT ANNOUNCES JAPAN/SK UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR POSSIBLE DUMPING SACCHARIN ON US MARKET (JOC).

FUJI BANK REPORTS FLOTATION NATL GOVT BONDS IN JAPAN DURING FY '76 EXPECTED REACH 24 BIL DOLS, WILL REDUCE FUND SUPPLY TO PVT SECTOR (JOC).

MITSUBISHI/NETHERLANDS' KINETICS TECHNOLOGY INTL SIGN CONTRACT COVERING WIDE RANGE BUSINESS OPTNS. MITSUBISHI REPORTED LOOKING FOR SIMILAR TIEUPS W/OTHER FIRMS NOT HAVING OFFICES SEA/AUSTRALIA (JOC).

SIMMONS (PHINQ) NOTES BUICK "OPEL," ORIGINALLY GERMAN IMPORT, STILL BEARS "OPEL" NAME, BUT NOW BUILT BY JAPAN'S ISUZU MOTORS.

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5. KOREA

DOS' TRATTNER CRITICIZED SK THURS FOR ISSUING STATEMENTS, SAYING THEY WERE "NOT HELPFUL." TRATTNER ADDED US-SK RELS, INCL DEF RELATIONSHIP, REMAIN CLOSE (WSJ; CSM; PHINQ; UPI, NYDN; REUTER 12/9; HALLORAN, NYT; OBERDORFER, WP).

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE FROM 292-MEMBER DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS RECOMMENDS HOUSE ETHICS CMTE UNDERTAKE "FULL AND COMPLETE" INVESTIGATION ALLEGED SK INFLUENCE-PEDDLING. SPEAKER-DESIGNATE O'NEILL EXPRESSED DESIRE "GO QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE" INTO MATTER (LYONS, NYT; NORDLINGER, SUN; AP, GLOBE,. ARMSTRONG/CHESHIRE (WP) ADD ETHICS CMTE INVESTIGATION MAY OVERLAP PROPOSED HOUSE JUDICIARY/INTL RELS SUBCMTES' INVESTIGATIONS. JUSTICE DEPT HAS ALSO REORGANIZED/ADDED PERSONNEL TO ITS INVESTIGATION, WHICH INCLUDES COOPERATION KIM SANG KEUN, OTHER RANKING KCIA/EMB OFFICIALS

COATES/MACLEAN (CHITRIB 12/9) REPORT ROK/KCIA MADE MASSIVE EFFORT LAST YEAR ENTICE 54 CONGRESSMEN FLY SEOUL AT US EXPENSE TO SOLIDIFY RELS W/PRES PARK. ONLY 7 ACTUALLY MADE TRIP, INCL REP MURPHY, WHO SPEARHEADED EFFORT ROUND UP CONGRESSMEN. MURPHY TOLD CHITRIB 12/8 HE USED INFLUENCE BEFORE ON BEHALF SK, BUT DENIED TAKING ANY GIFT/BRIBE, OR ACTING FOR KCIA (GLOBE 12/9).

DEF CONTRACTOR INVOLVED IN "E-SYSTEMS" SALES TO ROK ADMITS REGULAR PAYMENTS MADE TO 2 KOREANS INVOLVED IN SEC INVESTIGATION POSSIBLE BRIBES TO CONGRESSMEN. SEC SEEKING FORCED TESTIMONY FROM 2 ABOUT ACTIVITIES, WANTS RECORDS TURNED OVER (HOLUSHA (WSTAR 12/9).

THREE ECUMENICAL AGENCIES SPONSOR "INTL CONSULTATION ON NATL SECURITY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND PEACE" IN SEOUL. CONF DREW 43 DELEGATES FROM 8 COUNTRIES; ISSUED PAPER DECLARING DENIAL HUMAN RIGHTS "WEAKENS NATIONAL SECURITY," STRESSES "CHRISTIANS CANNOT GIVE" SUPPORT "UNCRITICALLY" TO GOVT FOR SECURITY REASONS ALONE. TWENTY-TWO KOREAN PARTICIPANTS ASSERTED THEIR GOVT "CAN ONLY BE CALLED" DICTATORSHIP. SIX DELEGATES SIGNED PETITION TO PARK ASKING AMNESTY FOR "ALL PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE" IN SK (WP).
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W DIPLOMATS BELIEVE DEPARTURE 12 DIPLOMATS FROM N KOREAN EMB IN MOSCOW EARLIER THIS FALL CONNECTED W/N KOREAN BLACK MARKET ACTIVITIES IN SCANDINAVIA. SOVIETS DENY ANYTHING UNUSUAL ABOUT DEPARTURES (WP).

BRITISH MERCHANT BANK PLANS ESTABLISH 8-MIL-DOL MERCHANT BANK IN SK AROUND MARCH (AP, SUN).

YOUNGER BROTHER KIM SANG KEUN BROUGHT TO US BY SK KOREAN 'FFICIALS IN ATTEMPT SEE KIM "ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS." "RELIABLE KOREAN SOURCES" SAY IF REQUEST DENIED, SK PLANS PUBLICLY CRITICIZE USG (BARTON, UPI).

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STATE-RUN KOREA EXCHANGE BANK SIGNS 100-MIL-DOL LOAN AGREEMENT W/GROUP 32 INTL BANKS, INCL CITIBANK/CHASE MANHATTAN. MONEY TO BE USED FOR EXPORT PROMO LOAN PROGRAMS (UPI, NYT).

6. INDOCHINA

JOC'S RIDDER CITES VN'S STATEMENT THAT NOTHING WORRY ABOUT RE HAK DEPARTURE FROM DOS, SINCE INVOLVES "ADVISOR WHO HAS PROVEN INCAPABLE OF SERVING IMPERIALISM," SO BEEN FORESAKEN BY US RULING CIRCLES, REPLACED--"AS IS UNDERWEAR."

7. INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

REFUGEES IN FLIMSY FISHING BOATS CONTINUE FLEE VN BY THOUSANDS, W/900 REACHING THAILAND IN OCT/NOV. SOME BELIEVE VN HAPPY SEE REFUGEES GO, SINCE THEY REPRESENT EXTRA, PROBABLY HOSTILE, MOUTHS TO FEED (REUTER, CSM). MCARTHUR (LAT 12/9) NOTES RISE IN NUMBERS REFUGEES FLEEING SVN, REPORTS FOR 1ST TIME RESCUE MISSION BEING UNDERTAKEN TO SAVE SOME WHOSE FISHING BOATS FOUNDER AT SEA. SAYS WORLD CONF ON RELIGION AND PEACE HAS 65-FT CRAFT W/FOOD/FUEL/LIFE RAFTS THAT CRUISES REFUGEE ROUTE TO THAILAND/MALAYSIA. ADDS MISSION TO HELP REFUGEES ADOPTED BY WORLD CONF REGIONAL MTG AT SINGAPORE LAST WK; GROUP ALSO INTENDS CHARTER LARGER VESSEL, PLANS APPEAL TO THAILAND/MALAYSIA/
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SINGAPORE/INDONESIA/PHILS/JAPAN/US/AUSTRALIA TO ACCEPT MORE REFUGEES. STATES ACTION CAUSES SOME DIPL APPREHENSION IN COUNTRIES CONCERNED, EMBARRASSES UNHCR SOMEWHAT.

TEMPORARY UNHCR TRIES HELP REFUGEES WORLDWIDE W/LIMITED PERSONNEL/BUDGET. PROBLEMS INCLUDE REFUSAL LAND REFUGEES AT SEA PORT AFTER RESCUE BY FREIGHTER FROM LEAKY FISHING BOAT. IN PAST, UNHCR -HELPED SETTLE HUNDRED THOUSANDS IN LAOS/VN DURING WAR (REUTER, LAT 12/9).

8. THAILAND

PM THANIN SAYS RTG WANTS GOOD RELS W/INDOCHINA STATES; ONLY ASKS NO INTERFERENCE THAI INTERNAL AFFAIRS. DECLINES COMMENT ON INVASION CLAIMS BY CABINET MINISTER (REUTER BANGKOK).

RTG APPROVES CONTRACT GIVING OFFSHORE TIN MINING RIGHTS TO ROYAL DUTCH-SHELL UNIT. ROLE FOREIGN FIRMS IN TIN-MINING SENSITIVE; MOVE SEEN AS CRITICAL IN ATTRACTING FDI INVESTMENT (CARLSON, WSJ).

9. MALAYSIA

MAJOR RUBBER/PALM OIL FIRM SIME DARBY HOLDINGS, RUN BY BRITONS, AGREES GIVE MALAYSIANS/OTHER ASIANS CONTROLLING VOICE ON BOARD (WSJ).

10. SINGAPORE

SKLAREWITZ (CSM) DESCRIBES IMPACT OIL SLUMP HAS ON ECONOMY. NOTES MANY AMCITS LEAVE AS REFINING/EXPLORATION SLUMP. ADDS GOS HOPES DROP IN PETROLEUM SUPPORT INDUSTRY ONLY TEMPORARY.

11. INDONESIA

LIPSKY/PURA (WSJ) QUOTE SENIOR OFFICIAL THAT GOI INVESTIGATING RELATIONSHIP BETW SOME PERTAMINA REPS, NUMBER FOREIGN SHIPOWNERS.

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12. FRENCH NUKE TESTS

FRANCE CONDUCTED UNDERGROUND NUKE EXPLOSION ON MORURORA ATOLL SATURDAY, ACCORDING PAPEETE PAPER (WP; REUTER PAPEETE 12/9).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

13. CHINA

CM WILBUR (COLUMBIA U PROF EMERITUS) SEES "STRONG ARGUMENTS" FOR US NOT RECOGNIZING PRC UNDER PEKING'S 3 CONDITIONS--ABROGATION SECURITY PACT WITH ROC, REMOVAL US FORCES FROM TAIWAN, WITHDRAWAL RECOGNITION FROM ROC. SAYS THIS COURSE WOULD, AT LEAST, CALL INTO QUESTION US COMMITMENT TO DEFENSE JAPAN/SK/WE ALLIES, STEADFASTNESS OF SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL- ADVISES CARTER ADMIN EXPLORE QUIETLY WHETHER RIVAL CONTESTANTS WILL ACCEPT DIFFERENT ARRANGEMENT FOR US RELS WITH DIVIDED CHINA, LEAVING ASIDE LEGITIMACY/SOVEREIGNTY QUESTIONS. CITES PEKING'S POSSIBLE GAINS FROM US: COMMERCIAL TREATY, MFN TREATMENT, ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, SOME PROPERTY CLAIMS SETTLEMENT. ADDS IF SUCH EXPLORATION FAILS BECAUSE PEKING INSISTS UPON ITS PRECONDITIONS, THEN USG CAN EXPLAIN TO AMERICAN PEOPLE THAT EARNEST EFFORT MADE BUT FOUNDERED OVER ISSUE OF PRINCIPLE NEITHER SIDE WOULD COMPROMISE (WP). WP'S MATHEWS (HK) FINDS CASE OF MUSIC TEACHER LI CHUN-KUANG, WHO HAS BECOME NATIONAL HERO FOR BLUNT ATTACK ON OFFICIAL PRC ARTS POLICY, CASTING NEW LIGHT ON SHADOWY TUMULT OF PEKING POLITICS.

14. JAPAN

CHIS-T (12/7) OPINES SUN SETS HARD ON LOCKHEED BRIBES. NOTES MANY JAPANESE VOTERS MADE CLEAR THINK BRIBERY SCANDALS STINK, BUT SOME DEEPLY-INVOLVED CANDIDATES RE-ELECTED BY TOUGH POL MACHINES. CONCLUDES JAPANESE NOT CHANGING IDEOLOGY; MAJORITY PARLIAMENT WILL VOICE MODERATELY CONSERVATIVE VIEWS, BUT AROUSED PUBLIC CALLED FOR CHANGING OF GUARD; LDP TOOK HEAVY BLOW WHEN VOTERS LEARNED LEADERS COULD BE BOUGHT.
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PHINQ AMAZED THAT LDP DID SO WELL IN DIET IN WAKE LOCKHEED SCANDAL. ANALYZES ELECTION RESULTS, SEES PERIOD INSTABILITY FOR NEXT SEVERAL MOS AS LDP LEARNS COALITION POLITICS. PREDICTS MIKI WILL PROBABLY BE REWARDED FOR EFFORTS ERADICATE CORRUPTION BY BEING OUSTED; BUT CONCLUDED ELECTION ALSO SHOWED FUNDAMENTAL STABILITY JAPANESE DEMOCRACY, SINCE TURNOUT LARGE, MOST VOTED FOR SOME CHANGE BUT WANT CONTINUE GOOD RELS W/US.

15. KOREA

SECY OF KOREAN CULTURAL AND FREEDOM FOUNDATION WRITES TO CRITICIZE WP FOR LEVELING HARMFUL ALLEGATIONS AT FOUNDATION. QUOTES AUDIT REPORT THAT NO MONEY USED INFLUENCE CONGRESSMEN, NO LOBBYING DONE EXCEPT FOR CHARITABLE PUR-

POSES, NO MONEY SENT GROK, FOUNDATION HAS NO TIES KCIA, NO MONEY "SIPHONED OFF," FOUNDATION NOT UNDER INVESTIGATION. CONCLUDES ALLEGATIONS BY ANONYMOUS INFORMERS MALICIOUS, MAY HAVE POL MOTIVATION.

WP ADDRESSES QUESTION OF DISCIPLINE IN HOUSE OF REPS. MENTIONS MORE LEGISLATORS RECOGNIZE NEED FOR STRICTER STDS CONDUCT, FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE, REPORTS ON LOBBYING, REVIEW CAMPAIGN FINANCING. NOTES REP O'NEILL PROMISES NEW ETHICS CODE; BUT POINTS OUT HE WAS FETED BY TONGSUN PARK FEW YRS AGO, HAS TAKEN LAVISH O'SEAS TRIPS.

CHIS-T (12/8) GIVES TIPS TO NEW DEM LEADERS IN HOUSE. ADVOCATES DIRECT ACTION VS ETHICS VIOLATORS. SAYS TEST WILL COME WHEN CONGRESS DECIDES HOW DEAL W/REVELATIONS SK SLUSH FUNDS/INFLUENCE PEDDLING.

,6. INDOCHINA

ILLS (PHINQ) RECALLS BOOST GIVEN PRES FORD BY MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT. QUOTES EMERSON'S BOOK ON VN, "WINNERS AND LOSERS," THAT WE LEARNED NOTHING FROM VN. STATES MAYAGUEZ PICTURE OF PRES/HAK/SECDEF SHOWS HOW GREAT IS TEMPTATION FOR US PRES BUY POPULARITY BY ACTING TOUGH.

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MAULDIN (CHIS-T 12/8) SHOWS US AS UN DOORMAN, STANDING BEHIND SIGN:"NO DOGS OR VIETNAMESE ALLOWED."

17. GENERAL

SEIB (WP) BELIEVES FORD/CARTER TRANSITION CAN BE TIME FOR DEALING W/TROUBLESOME ODDS/ENDS, LIKE CIA INVOLVEMENT W/PRESS. REVIEWS CASE, NOTES CIA HAS NOT RENOUNCED INVOLVEMENT W/FORIEGN PRESS IN 3 CATEGORIES: USE FOREIGN NEWSMEN FOR INTELL PURPOSES; PLANTING FALSE/MISLEADING NEWS; PLACING NEWS FOR CIA PURPOSES. URGES PRES GET CIA OUT OF NEWS BUSINESS. SAYS CAN PARTLY BLAME OURSELVES FOR 3RD WORLD PROPOSAL TO SANCTION GOVT CONTROL NEWS. ROBINSON

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